

February 2021

**All
Things
160**

President's Praise

Electric Vehicle (EV) Battery Facility Scheduled

A new battery facility has broken ground on the Warren Technical Center campus (WTC). Many of our members may have seen the demolition of a few buildings on the north side of campus, northeast of the water tower.

This new on-site facility will serve as an EV battery storage center as well as a General Motors EV battery testing facility.

New construction taking place on our campus is always very welcome news. UAW Facilities Maintenance will play a crucial role in servicing this very important machine equipment being used to operate and maintain this facility.

In Solidarity,

David Small

President of Local 160



Member Of The Month



Chaz Martin is a Wood Model Maker in Man A out of the Design Center. He was hired in as an Apprentice at the GM Warren Tech Center in 1992. Chaz has a beautiful wife, Robin, who he has been married to for 31 years. Together, they have 2 children, a daughter named Raven who is 31, and a son named Charles III who is 30. Chaz also helped raise his nephew Jamal who is now 31. Chaz and Robin keep the romance alive by still going on dates, and they even took a trip around Europe for their 30th anniversary. Before accepting the Apprenticeship at GM, Chaz worked as an audio engineer at many recording studios such as United Sound Systems in Detroit and The Disc. He has worked with musicians such as George Clinton, Anita Baker, Aretha Franklin, White Stripes, D-12, Proof, Denaun Porter, Eminem, and Digital Underground. Chaz loves music and comes from a family with musical talent. His uncle was a saxophone player and his mother was a singer. Chaz used to play at jazz clubs like Cobb's Corner, Detroit Jazz Club, and Baker's Keyboard Lounge with Harold McKinney and Marcus Belgrave. He was also a drummer in a band called The Surge and is still involved in music. He even has a studio in his house where he specializes in vocal arrangement and harmonies. Chaz's favorite musicians include all the classic singers such as Stevie Wonder, Anita Baker, Aretha Franklin, and George Clinton. Caleb Merritt and Teairra Marie are Chaz's favorite artists with whom he has worked with and produced for. His first concert was The Jackson 5 at the Olympia. For the last year, Chaz has trained our UAW skilled trades workers on NX (NX, formerly known as "Unigraphics", is an advanced high-end CAD/CAM/CAE software program). He became involved with NX after he started working on the PARPAS (high speed milling machine). He attended many UG conferences and went out of his way to bring up concerns about upgrading their performance. This created improvements to our processes. His future goal is to instill in the company a sense of community that we can work together to amplify training and quality here at the GM Global Tech Center. Local 160 leadership cannot thank Chaz enough for dedicating his time and knowledge to the membership by providing them with technical training.



Black History Month, which is celebrated each year during February, is a chance for Americans to learn details of our nation's history that, unfortunately, are far too often neglected and pushed to the wayside. As the saying goes, Black history is American history — and it's a varied and rich history.

A wise nation honors and learns from its past. It refuses to let the most important facts about our shared and collective memory disappear into the depths of forgotten history. What happened in the past shapes and informs where we are heading in the future, and it is of paramount importance to set aside a month for learning as much as we can about Black history.

WHY BLACK HISTORY MONTH IS IMPORTANT

The past isn't dead. It's not even past!

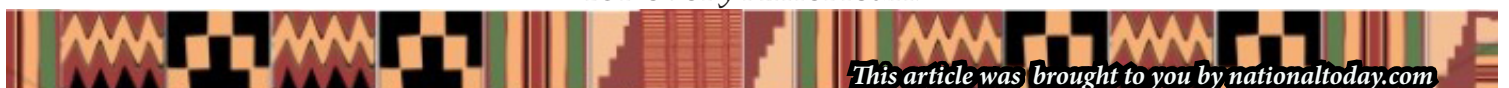
Anybody who pays even a little attention to American social affairs and politics knows that we still have much work to do in order for this nation to truly live out its creed that everyone is "created equal." The lessons of Black History Month provide us with a way forward by examining our past.

It inspires us

There are so many stories that have yet to be told about the history of Black America. Black History Month inspires us to search beyond the typical — and to seek out the extraordinary. The stories are waiting; we just have to go and find them.

History is also about the future

Martin Luther King Jr. said that "history books ... had almost completely ignored the contribution" of Black Americans throughout history. Awareness of this undeniable fact can help us chart our nation's course to a more enlightened age for every American.



GREAT MOMENTS IN LABOR HISTORY

The Month of February In American Labor History

- 1865 - National Freedom Day. Anniversary of President Abraham Lincoln's approval of the 13th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution which abolished slavery.
- 1869 - Birthdate of William D. "Big Bill" Haywood, labor leader and Industrial Workers of the World cofounder.
 - 1830 - First daily labor paper, the New York Daily Sentinel, begins publication.
- 1993 - President Clinton signs the Family and Medical Leave Act, requiring employers to grant up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave for a family or medical emergency.
- 1919 - Shipyard strike of 32,000 workers in Seattle, Washington sparks general strike as workers take control of the city.
 - 1864 - Birthdate of Mary Kenney O'Sullivan, factory inspector and labor leader. Appointed by American Federation of Labor President Samuel Gompers as the organization's first female general organizer.
- 1817 - Birthdate of Frederick Douglass, former slave, abolitionist, writer and advocate of civil, labor and trade-union rights for African Americans.
- 1880 - Birthdate of John L. Lewis, United Mine Workers President and founder of the Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO). He played a leading role in organizing drives of the 1930s, which established trade unions among mass production workers.
 - 1903 - Western Federation of Miners strike for eight-hour day.
 - 1903 - President Theodore Roosevelt signed a law creating the Department of Commerce and Labor. Ten years later, it was divided in two separate government departments.
- 1820 - Birthdate of Susan B. Anthony, female suffragist, women's rights advocate, and labor activist.
- 1936 - Rubber Workers begin sit-down strike at Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company.
 - 1792 - President George Washington signs an act creating the U.S. Post Office.
- 1912 - Women and children beaten by police during Lawrence, Massachusetts textile workers strike.
 - 1913 - 25,000 immigrant textile workers go on strike against Paterson, New Jersey's silk factories in one of the most heroic struggles for justice in American labor history. Workers were forced by their employers to work 10 hours a day for as little as six dollars a week. Despite the workers' steadfast courage, mass arrests, lack of financial support, police harassment, and divisions between skilled and unskilled workers contributed to the strike's defeat.
- 1979 - The American Postal Workers Union declares Amnesty Day to protest the firing of over 200 postal workers during the 1978 contract dispute.
 - 1918 - International Association of Fire Fighters founded.



App-based companies like Uber, Lyft, and Doordash have dodged a potentially devastating blow to their industry by carving out an exemption from a California law that required them to classify their drivers as employees instead of contractors. The constituents from California overwhelmingly voted to pass Proposition 22, delivering a scathing rebuke to state lawmakers and labor leaders who were fighting to provide better working conditions for people who drive for ride-hailing and food delivery services.

California has one of the toughest laws in the United States for determining when a company must treat its workers as employees and offer them minimum wage, sick days, and overtime. Uber, Lyft, Doordash, Instacart, and several other gig companies sought to get out of providing their employees with the above-mentioned benefits, after failing to do so in court, by succeeding in convincing Californian voters into giving them an exemption from most of the year-old law's provisions. A record \$200 million spending spree by these gig companies and their supporters helped to win the vote. Not only did they see victory at the ballot box, their stock prices soared, and Uber and Lyft had a combined market share climb to \$10 billion dollars shortly after Proposition 22 passed. While some drivers applauded the outcome, others viewed it as a major setback for gig workers. Some drivers supported the proposal out of fear that if it didn't pass, they would lose their working flexibility, if not their entire jobs.

Brendan Sexton, the Independent Drivers Guild group's executive director, felt that this proposition left them with no representation, no collective bargaining rights, no path to a negotiable livable wage, and no ability to have a real voice in their pay and benefits.

California's Prop 22 went into effect in December 2020 and includes a wage floor, a health insurance stipend, and some mileage reimbursement for independent app-based workers. The protections that come with regular employment-like sick leave, and full disability and unemployment benefits—are not provided. The guarantee that workers be paid more than minimum wage won't cover time spent waiting for a passenger, hours that account for roughly one-third of their workday on average.

The next battle lines are already being drawn over future gig labor regulations. States like Illinois, Massachusetts, New York, Washington and others are all currently scrutinizing gig workers' rights.

However, companies like Uber, Lyft, and Doordash are hoping that Proposal 22 has already set precedence for these battleground states.

*In Solidarity,
Angela Bia-Shock*

The White Gold Rush

For a long time most of the world's lithium was produced by an oligopoly of producers often referred to as the "Big Three": Albemarle, Sociedad Quimica y Minera de Chile and FMC. Among these companies would have been Rockwood Holdings before it was acquired by Albemarle several years ago, making Albemarle that much bigger.

However, the list of the world's top lithium-mining companies has changed in recent years. The companies mentioned above still produce the majority of the world's lithium, but China accounts for a large chunk of output as well. The Asian nation was the third largest lithium-producing country in 2019 in terms of mine production, coming in behind Australia and Chile. A company called Jiangxi Ganfeng Lithium is an important Chinese lithium producer. The company is China's largest lithium compound producer and is one of the world's largest lithium metals producers in terms of production capacity. The Chinese mining company has interests in six lithium resources in Australia, Argentina, China and Ireland. Ganfeng owns a 14.7 percent stake in lithium junior International Lithium. Ganfeng also has supply agreements in place with Tesla, carmaker BMW, Korean battery maker LG Chem, and Volkswagen. 2019 was also full of activity from the Chinese giant, including increasing its stake in Lithium Americas' Argentina project from 37.5 percent to 50 percent and expanding its target capacity at the asset from 25,000 metric tons to 40,000 metric tons of battery-quality lithium carbonate per year. In February 2020, Ganfeng upped its interest in Cauchari-Olaroz to 51 percent, taking a controlling stake in the asset, which remains on budget and on track to start production in early 2021.

Australia's largest lithium mine, called Greenbushes, is majority controlled by China's Tianqi Lithium. Lithium producer Tianqi Lithium, a subsidiary of Chengdu Tianqi Group, headquartered in China, is the world's largest hard rock lithium producer. Tianqi owns a 51 percent stake in Talison Lithium, which runs the mine, while Albemarle owns a 49 percent stake in Talison via its acquisition of Rockwood Holdings. Albemarle is one of the largest lithium producers in the world, with 5,000 employees and customers in 100 different countries worldwide.

China now has about 40 percent of the world's market share. In the future, China is expected to fuel lithium-ion battery production, which is set to increase substantially in the coming years as demand for electric vehicles increases. In other words, consumers should be aware of the tight hold China has on the all the lithium that's being mined worldwide. The rapidly growing demand for Lithium will allow China to wield great power if they continue to dominate the industry.

In Solidarity,
Jessie Kelly

The "White Gold" Rush is a continued series in "All Things 160." Stay tuned.



Welcome new and returning Local 160 Members!

This month we welcomed 17 new Local 160 Members.

Welcome, Brothers and Sisters, to the UAW Local 160 Family and to the General Motors Global Technical Center.



- Michael Guilbeault
- Thomas Pilon
- Brian Torbert
- Dalton Reichle
- Bob Lakatos
- Daniel Quinn Jr
- David Kowalski
- Tyrick Wicks
- Terrence Williams
- Daniel Riebesehl
- Theodore Craft
- Charvae Essix
- Mark Hess
- Justin Ostaszewski
- Christopher Zefic
- Brian Cavanugh
- Zachary Camaj



UAW/REGION 1 ONLINE CLASSES

UAW Region 1 is proud to offer an online education program that allows you to take union classes from your own home!

There are currently 22 online classes available, and seven new classes are scheduled to launch by March.

New users are activated monthly and are given access to the full catalog of classes for their enrollment month. You must be a member in good standing and complete the online registration form to participate.

More information, including a class catalog and the online registration form, is available on the following website:
<https://region1.uaw.org/education/online-classes>

If you have any questions regarding online classes please contact
Susie Reed at sreed@uaw.net.

To also receive informational updates from
UAW Region 1, visit their webpage at
<https://region1.uaw.org/> for updates.





Dear Rosie,

Will we have to claim the unemployment income we recieved while being out of work due to the pandemic?

-Tax Time Tom

Dear Tax Time Tom,

Yes, some members chose to have taxes withheld from their unemployment wages and others did not. Either way, you can find your 1099 form needed for filing your taxes online at www.michigan.gov, and a copy should be mailed to you.

In Solidgrity,
Rosie

American-Made Product Of The Month



US.
SHOVEL
Bio-mechanically designed with your body in mind

MADE IN THE USA

US.SHOVEL is an American company that specializes in non-powered industrial & for-home hand tools based in the greater **Detroit, Michigan** area.

US.SHOVEL is the union of two very dynamic companies, one being a high volume manufacturer of exceptional expertise and precision revered by America's greatest auto makers for decades, the other being a design firm whose innovative ideas and ergonomic products have altered entire industries. This union creates the first All-American line of lawn and garden tools of user-friendly designs of the highest quality and overall value.

US.Shovel's manufacturing arm, built on a principle of Zero-Quality-Defects and On-Time-Every-Time-Delivery has for over thirty (30) years produced high-volume precision auto parts and accessories.

Find us at America's finest retailers...

Menards, Home Depot, Lowe's, Sam's Club, Blain's, Murdoch's

**"You must never
be fearful about
what you are
doing when it is
right."**

Rosa Parks



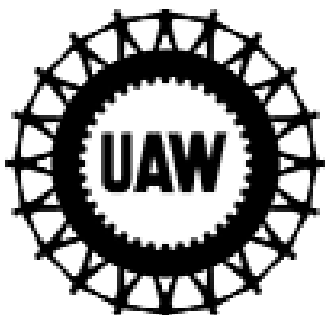
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Local Union Communication Association

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